

HOUSE No. 3479

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act Requiring Pain Management and Prescription Drug Abuse Training For Prescribing Medical and Healthcare Providers..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 18 of Chapter 94C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection (e):

3 (e) Prescribing practitioners seeking to obtain or renew a Massachusetts professional
4 license shall be required to demonstrate completion of no less than 8 hours of training for
5 physicians and 2 hours of training for all other prescribing practitioners in effective pain
6 management, including identification of patients at high risk for substance abuse and other
7 aspects of prescription medication abuse. Professional licensing boards may count these hours as
8 part of their regular continuing education licensing requirements. The Department of Public
9 Health shall assist professional education organizations in developing programs that achieve the
10 stated purposes, which programs shall qualify toward the satisfaction of continuing professional
11 education licensing requirements.